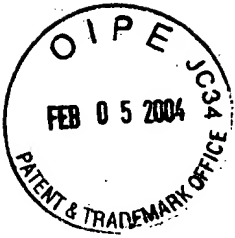


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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

PATENT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

2-11-04
#9

In re Application of:

Hiroyasu FUJINAKA et al.

Serial No.: 09/986,271

Group Art Unit: 3745

Filed: November 8, 2001

Examiner: Christopher M. Verdier

For: BLOWER AND METHOD FOR MOLDING HOUSING THEREOF

SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PLEASE ACCEPT THIS AS
AUTHORIZATION TO DEBIT
OR CREDIT FEES TO
DEP. ACCT. 16-0331
PARKHURST & WENDEL

Claims 20-24 remain herein. In response to the Office
Action mailed January 27, 2004, Applicant respectfully requests
that the rejection of claim 24 under §103(a) over Otsuka in view
of the admitted prior art (APA), be withdrawn.

Claim 24 defines a method for making a blower having an
annular wall provided with slits for air flow which are separated
by n spacers, at least n-2 of the spacers being inclined with
respect to a radial plane perpendicular to the axis of rotation
of the blower fan. A pair of molds form the annular wall and a

Serial No.: 09/986,271

pair of slide cores are used to form slits in the annular wall at the same time as the annular wall is being molded. The annular wall, a base for the blower and a boss to which the blower motor is mounted are all molded as a single piece of unitary construction. The molds are shown in Figs. 28a, 28b, 31a, and 31b.

Neither Otsuka nor the APA discloses or suggests the inclined spacer arrangement recited in claim 24. With the inclined spacer arrangement, a simpler mold assembly and process using only upper and lower molds and slide cores is provided. The benefits of such a molding method are described in the last paragraph of page 40 of the specification.

For all the foregoing reasons and for those stated in the Amendment filed December 8, 2003, there is no disclosure or teaching in Otsuka or the APA which discloses or teaches anything which would have suggested applicants' claim 24 invention to one of ordinary skill in the art.

Serial No.: 09/986,271

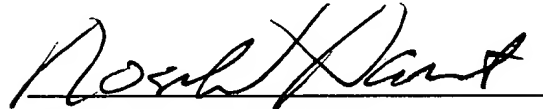
Allowance of all claims 20-24 is courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

PARKHURST & WENDEL, L.L.P.

February 5, 2004

Date



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